

Application Ser. No.: 10/613,482
Filing Date: July 3, 2003
Examiner: Seaman, D. Margaret

Remarks

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1 to 12 are pending in the application; claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-11 are rejected; and that claims 3, 8 and 12 are objected to. By this amendment, claims 1-3, 6, and 9-12 have been amended. New claims 13-15 have been added. Thus, claims 1 to 15 are pending in the application. No new subject matter has been inserted through these amendments. All of the amendments are fully supported by the specification. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description and enablement requirement.

In particular, the Examiner alleges that the instant specification does not adequately describe the nexus between the modulation of the NIK receptor and treatment of a disease condition. However, claims 6 and 9 have been amended to recite only a few disease conditions that can be treated by the compounds of this invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-9, as amended, fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Therefore, withdrawal of this rejection as to claims 6-9 is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Specifically, the Examiner has noted that claim 12 improperly depends on claim 1. Claim 12, as amended, now properly depends on claim 10. Therefore, withdrawal of rejection as to claim 12 is respectfully requested.

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Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-2, 4-7 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by GB2185255A (1987).

As noted, claims 1-2, 4-7 and 9-11, as amended, do not anticipate any of the compounds of GB2185255A. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2, 4-7 and 9-11 fully satisfy the requirement of 35 USC § 102(b), and therefore, withdrawal of this rejection as to claims 1-2, 4-7 and 9-11 is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 3, 8 and 12 stand objected to because they depend from a rejected base claim.

However, as noted, claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 9-11, as amended fully overcome all of the outstanding rejections. Thus it is submitted that this objection as to claims 3, 8 and 12 is rendered moot. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this objection as to claims 3, 8 and 12 be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 13-15 have been presented in this amendment which recite various compounds of this invention removed from claim 3 because of amendment to claim 1. Specifically, claim 13 recite these removed compounds, claim 14 recites pharmaceutical compositions containing these compounds and claim 15 recites use of these compounds in treating various disease states. Accordingly, new claims 13-15 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusions

In view of the above Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 to 15 are now in condition for allowance and the early issuance of this case is respectfully requested. In the event the Examiner wishes to contact the undersigned regarding any matter, please call (collect if necessary) the telephone number listed below.

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Applicants believe there are no fees due for this Rule 111 Amendment. However, if the Examiner deems that fees are due, please charge these fees to Deposit Account No. 18-1982 for Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc. Bridgewater, NJ. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1982.

Respectfully submitted,

September 7, 2004

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